

Message Text

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PASS: COMMERCE FOR WALLACE,NOAA AND BLONDIN, NMFS

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: EFIS, OECD
SUBJECT: OECD FISHERIES MEETING DEC. 13-14, 1976.

1. SUMMARY. THE OECD COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES DISCUSSED LICENSES AND COUNTER-MEASURES TO MEET ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES. THE NEW ZEALAND DELEGATE DISCUSSED A NEW FOREIGN FISHING VESSEL PORT ENTRY TAX. THIS DISCUSSION INCLUDED PARTICIPATION BY THE OECD INVISIBLES COMMITTEE. THE EC NOTIFIED THE OECD SECRETARIAT THAT THEY DID NOT WISH TO DISCUSS EC FUTURE FISHERIES POLICY AT THIS MEETING. THE US DELEGATION REPORT ON THE US FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT WAS WELL RECEIVED. THE OECD SECRETARIAT AGREED TO PREPARE A REVISED DRAFT OF THE FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES. END SUMMARY.

2. AFTER DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEM 3, LICENSING AND ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT FOR FISHERIES, IT WAS DECIDED THE
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SECRETARIAT SHOULD UPDATE OECD PUBLICATION FI/160 ON LICENSING AND DELETE FUTURE STUDIES ON ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT. DISCUSSIONS ON THE POSSIBILITIES OF A SYMPOSIUM ON LICENSING WERE CONSIDERED WITH NO DEFINITE DECISIONS REACHED.

3. AGENDA ITEM 4, COUNTER-MEASURES TO MEET ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES WERE DISCUSSED AND CONCLUSIONS WERE MADE THAT ALL FISHERIES ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS SHOULD BE EXAMINED WHETHER SHORT-TERM OR PERMANENT. BECAUSE OF THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE EC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS THE EC DELEGATE SAID EC COMMISSION WOULD TRY TO ASSEMBLE A REPORT ON EC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND SUBMIT IT TO OECD.

4. AGENDA ITEM 5, COVERED A NEW ZEALAND SCHEME TO TAX FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS. THE FUNDS GAINED WILL BE USED TO AUGMENT NEW ZEALAND FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT AND ALSO ARE DESIGNED TO DISCOURAGE FOREIGN FISHING. SINCE SEPTEMBER 1, 1976 ALL FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS CALLING AT NEW ZEALAND PORTS HAVE BEEN REQUIRED TO PAY A TAX ON EACH VISIT. THIS TAX RANGES FROM NZ\$1,000- NZ\$5,000 DEPENDING ON THE SIZE OF THE VESSEL. BASED ON 1975 FIGURES, THE REVENUE FROM THE TAX WOULD BE ABOUT NZ\$700,000/YEAR. THE AVERAGE EXPENDITURE PER BOAT/VISIT IS ESTIMATED AT NZ\$3,500. THIS MEASURE IS EXPECTED TO HAVE A SIGNIFICANTLY GREATER EFFECT ON JAPANESE VESSELS THAN ON SOVIET VESSELS BECAUSE THE SOVIETS DEPLOY FACTORY AND SUPPLY SHIPS THEREBY OBVIATING THE NECESSITY OF MAKING PORT CALLS. A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OECD INVISIBLES COMMITTEE PARTICIPATED IN THIS SESSION AND REQUESTED THAT ALL MEMBERS REPORT ON PORT RESTRICTIONS AND DISINCENTIVE MEASURES EMPLOYED IN THEIR COUNTRY ON FOREIGN FISHING VESSELS.

5. AGENDA ITEM 6, ON FUTURE FISHERIES POLICY OF THE UNCLASSIFIED

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EC WAS UNFORTUNATELY CANCELLED BY THE EC. NO EXPLANATIONS WERE GIVEN. THE US REPORT ON THE US FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976 WAS WELL RECEIVED. THIS REPORT WAS FOLLOWED BY AN EXTENSIVE QUESTION PERIOD INDICATING A HIGH DEGREE OF INTEREST.

6. THE SECRETARIAT AGREED TO PREPARE A REVISED DRAFT OF THE FUNCTIONAL STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR FISHERIES BECAUSE OF THE MAJOR CHANGES UNDERWAY IN WORLD FISHERIES. THIS DRAFT SHOULD BE READY FOR THE SPRING SESSION.
KATZ

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